

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Application of California Water Service Company (U 60 W), a corporation, for an order authorizing it to increase rates charged for water service in the Redwood Valley District by \$566,100, or 78.3%, in 2003, by \$205,600, or 16.0% in 2004, by \$200,300, or 13.4%, in 2005, and by \$201,000, or 11.9% in 2006.

Application 02-11-020  
(Filed November 8, 2002)

**SCOPING MEMO AND RULING OF ASSIGNED COMMISSIONER  
AND ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE**

California Water Service Company (CWS) requests an increase to its rates charged for water service in the Redwood Valley District as follows: by \$566,100, or 78.3%, in 2003, by \$205,600, or 16.0% in 2004, by \$200,300, or 13.4%, in 2005, and by \$201,000, or 11.9% in 2006. The Commission's Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA) plans to participate in this proceeding. The Commission held a prehearing conference on Wednesday, January 8, 2003.

This ruling confirms the categorization and determination that hearings are necessary. It also sets forth the proceeding's scope and schedule, confirms the principal hearing officer, specifies the time and manner for requesting oral argument, and addresses other procedural issues which will facilitate the efficient processing of this application.

### 1. Categorization and the Need for Hearings

This ruling confirms the Commission’s preliminary categorization in Resolution ALJ 176-3101 of ratesetting and that hearings are necessary. This ruling is appealable as to categorization only under Rule 6.4.

### 2. Scope of this Proceeding

The principal issue is whether it is appropriate for the Commission to grant CWS’s requested revenue increase. Any of the estimates upon which the proposed revenue requirements and rates for the test and attrition years are based may be issues of dispute in the hearings.

### 3. Schedule

<b>Event</b>	<b>Schedule</b>
Applicant updates testimony	Served by Wednesday, January 15, 2003
ORA and other interested parties serve testimony	Served by Monday, April 21, 2003
Public Participation Hearings	To be arranged. Tentatively to be held the week of April 21 in the Guerneville and Lucerne areas.
Applicant serves rebuttal testimony; Applicant sends a joint letter from all parties setting forth a witness list in the order the witnesses will be testifying.	Served by Friday, May 16, 2003.
Evidentiary Hearings	Tuesday, May 27 through Friday, May 30, 2003, commencing at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission’s Courtroom, State Office Building, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California
Requests for Oral Argument before the Commission	Filed no later than Friday, June 27, 2003
Concurrent Opening Briefs; Joint Comparison Exhibit	Filed on Friday, June 27, 2003
Concurrent Reply Briefs	Filed on Monday, July 7, 2003

Proposed Decision issues	No later than Monday, October 6, 2003
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Our goal is to resolve this proceeding as soon as possible after it is submitted, and we anticipate that resolution will occur in any event within 18 months from the date of the filing of the application.

#### **4. Principal Hearing Office and Final Oral Argument**

Pursuant to Pub. Util. Code § 1701.3, Commissioner Wood designates Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Econome as the principal hearing officer.

As stated in the schedule, and pursuant to Rule 8(d), parties requesting final oral argument before the Commission must do so no later than when they file their opening briefs, currently scheduled for June 27, 2003, unless directed otherwise by the Assigned Commissioner or ALJ.

#### **5. Service List**

At the prehearing conference, we established the official service list which is attached hereto as Appendix A.

#### **6. Exhibits**

Parties shall follow the requirements set forth in Appendix B regarding service, correction and identification of, and cross-examination with, exhibits in the hearing room.

#### **7. Ex Parte Communications**

Rules 7(c), (f), and (g) and 7.1 apply to this proceeding.

#### **8. Discovery Disputes**

If the parties have discovery disputes they are unable to resolve by meeting and conferring, they should raise these disputes under the Commission's Law and Motion procedure. (Resolution ALJ-164.)

**9. Public Participation Hearings and Other Matters**

A future ruling will set forth the dates and times of the public participation hearings. Applicant has agreed to give notice of such hearings not only in its bill inserts but also to those on the waiting list for water hook-up in the Coast Springs Division.

**IT IS RULED** that:

1. This ruling confirms the Commission's preliminary categorization in Resolution ALJ 176-3101 of ratesetting, and that hearings are necessary. This ruling, as to categorization only, is appealable under Rule 6.4.
2. The schedule and scope of this proceeding are as set forth in Sections 2 and 3.
3. Administrative Law Judge Econome is the principal hearing officer in this application.
4. The official service list is attached as Appendix A.
5. Parties shall follow the instructions in Appendix B regarding service, correction and identification of, and cross-examination with, exhibits in the hearing room.
6. Rules 7(c), (f), and (g) and 7.1 apply to this proceeding regarding ex parte communication.
7. Parties shall resolve discovery disputes pursuant to the instructions in Section 8.

Dated January 14, 2003, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ CARL WOOD

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Carl Wood  
Assigned Commissioner

/s/ JANET A. ECONOME

Janet A. Econome  
Administrative Law Judge

**APPENDIX A**

\*\*\*\*\* **APPEARANCES** \*\*\*\*\*

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\*\*\*\*\* **INFORMATION ONLY** \*\*\*\*\*

**(END OF APPENDIX A)**

## APPENDIX B

### EXHIBITS

#### Service of Exhibits

Paper copies of all prepared written testimony shall be served on all appearances and state service on the service list, as well as on the Assigned Commissioner's office and on the Assigned ALJ. Electronic copies shall be served on the entire service list, including information only. Do NOT file prepared written testimony with the Commission's Docket Office. (Such testimony becomes part of the record only after it is admitted into evidence.)

#### Identification of Exhibits in the Hearing Room

Each party sponsoring an exhibit shall, in the hearing room, provide **two copies to the ALJ and one to the court reporter**, and have at least five copies available for distribution to parties present in the hearing room. **The upper right hand corner of the exhibit cover sheet shall be blank for the ALJ's exhibit stamp.** Please note that this directive applies to cross-examination exhibits as well. If there is not sufficient room in the upper right hand corner for an exhibit stamp, please prepare a cover sheet for the cross-examination exhibit.

#### Cross-Examination With Exhibits

As a general rule, if a party intends to introduce an exhibit in the course of cross-examination, the party should provide a copy of the exhibit to the witness and the witness' counsel before the witness takes the stand on the day the exhibit is to be introduced. Generally, a party is not required to give the witness an advance copy of the document if it is to be used for purposes of impeachment or to obtain the witness' spontaneous reaction. An exception might exist if parties have otherwise agreed to prior disclosure, such as in the case of confidential documents.

#### Corrections to Exhibits

Generally, corrections to an exhibit should be made in advance and not orally from the witness stand. Corrections should be made in a timely manner by providing new exhibit pages on which corrections appear. The original text to be deleted should be lined out with the substitute or added text shown above or inserted. Each correction page should be marked with the word "revised" and the revision date.

Exhibit corrections will receive the same number as the original exhibit plus a letter to identify the correction. Corrections of exhibits with multiple sponsors will also be identified by chapter number. For example, Exhibit 5-3-B is the second correction made to Chapter 3 of Exhibit 5.

**(END OF APPENDIX B)**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that I have by mail this day served a true copy of the original attached Scoping Memo and Ruling of Assigned Commissioner and Administrative Law Judge on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record.

Dated January 14, 2002, at San Francisco, California.

          /s/ FANNIE SID            
Fannie Sid

**N O T I C E**

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.

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The Commission's policy is to schedule hearings (meetings, workshops, etc.) in locations that are accessible to people with disabilities. To verify that a particular location is accessible, call: Calendar Clerk (415) 703-1203.

If specialized accommodations for the disabled are needed, e.g., sign language interpreters, those making the arrangements must call the Public Advisor at (415) 703-2074 or TTY# 1-866-836-7825 or (415) 703-5282 at least three working days in advance of the event.